



## **Types of Sponsorships**

There are several different categories of sponsorship with which private sponsors can become involved.

The first large grouping are for individuals whom the government has already identified as refugees and has accepted to come to Canada, usually through referrals from the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR). These are:

**Joint Assistance Sponsorship** - The government supports the person or family financially for one or two years after arrival and the private sponsor helps them resettle in the community.

**Visa Office Referred Sponsorship** - The government notifies private sponsors that an individual or family are accepted to Canada but require a private sponsor to support them for one year after arrival.

**Blended Visa Office Referred Sponsorship** - Similar to the above but in these sponsorships, the government agrees to provide financial support for 6 months and the private sponsor agrees to provide support for up to 6 more months and to cover start-up costs.

The second large grouping are refugees that private sponsors themselves identify for sponsorship. There are two main types:

**Full Sponsorship** - The Constituent Group (CG) becomes aware of a refugee and agrees to sponsor this individual on the understanding that the CG will support this person or family for up to one year after arrival.

**Family-Link Sponsorship** - A family already settled in Manitoba asks a CG to sponsor family members still living overseas as refugees. The family agrees to support their family members after they arrive. This type of sponsorship makes up the largest group currently being submitted for sponsorship.

### **Limits on Sponsorship**

Each year the government decides on the number of sponsorships each Sponsorship Agreement Holder is able to submit in the last two categories. There are no limits on the first three categories.